

## ***Collage Landscape Activity***

*The following project can be adapted for  
Grades 5th thru 12th, as well as adult populations  
depending on the images chosen to collage and the  
skill level of the participants.*

*Please remember to view the slides at a pace  
appropriate for students to access and  
digest the information and images shown.*

*You can stop on any slide to draw or follow instructions  
as you go along*

*You should watch the entire presentation first and  
Return to complete the sections with hands-on activities*

# **LANDSCAPE COLLAGE PROJECT**

*With Patricia Ritter, Visual Artist*

*Kentucky Arts Council Teaching Artist*

While I love to paint in watercolors and acrylics, I also really enjoy making art using Collage techniques.

In this lesson you will learn how to create a landscape artwork using the techniques shown and materials that can be found in any household.

You can make artwork that is very realistic,  
or you can create fantasy or abstract art.

You can be very creative and decide what style of art you want.

To give you some background, we will first learn about Collage and look at some examples of this art form...

# Collage

(From the French: *coller*, to stick)  
is regarded as a work of visual art made from an assemblage of different forms, thus creating a new whole.

This technique made its dramatic appearance among oil paintings in the early 20th century.

An artistic collage work may include newspaper clippings, ribbons, bits of colored or hand-made papers, portions of other artwork, photographs, pictures and words cut or torn from magazines - all glued together to create your own work of art!



Patricia Ritter



*Comptoir avec fruits, violon et verre* by Pablo Picasso  
(1912)

Cubist painter,  
**Pablo Picasso**, was the  
first to use the collage  
technique in oil paintings.

In 1912 for his  
*Still Life with Chair Caning*,  
he pasted a patch of  
oilcloth with a chair-cane  
design onto the canvas of  
the painting.





Pablo Picasso –  
Collage with paper and cut  
Guitar shapes

## Collages by Henri Matisse

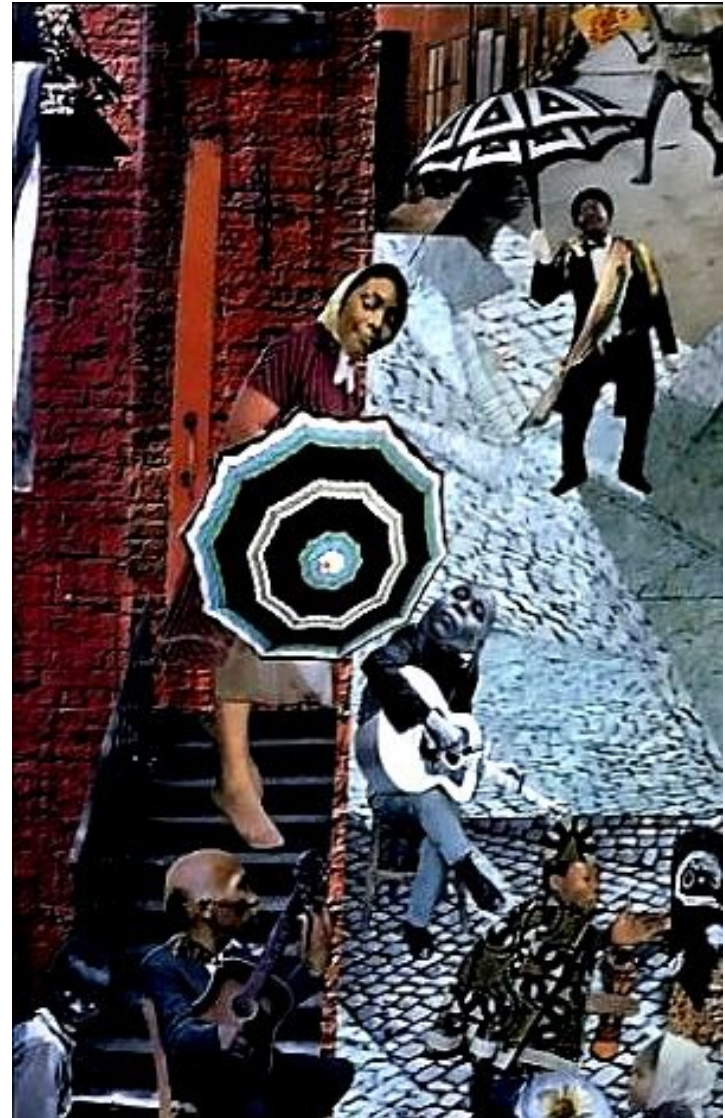
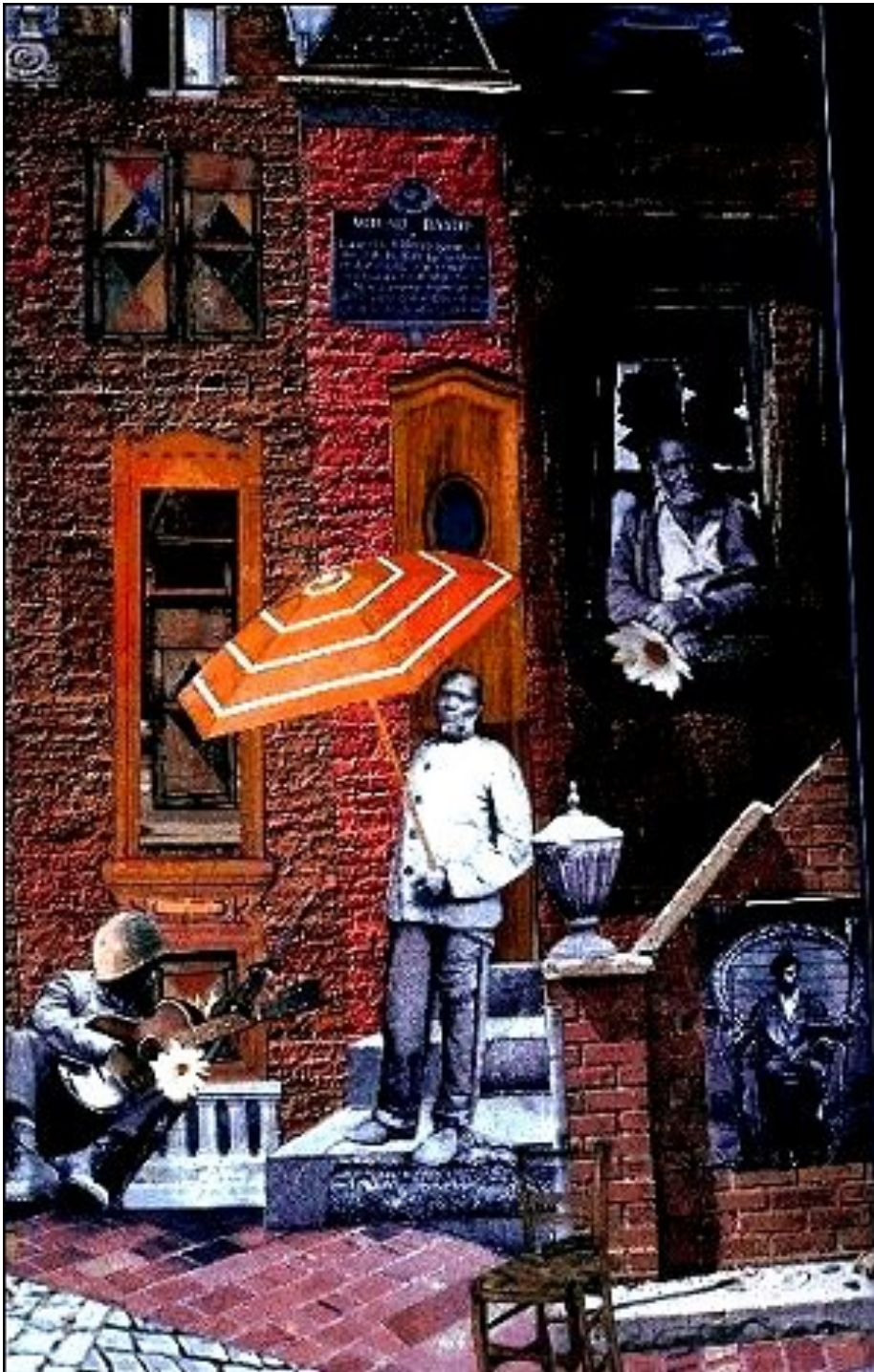
**Henri Matisse** (1869 –1954) was a French artist, and is one of the best-known artists of the twentieth century.

In 1941 he was diagnosed with cancer and, following surgery, he started using a wheelchair. Matisse did not allow this setback to halt his work, and with the aid of assistants he started creating cut paper collages, often on a very large scale; he played with color and shapes in a whole new way!





JEAN LACY is a modern collage artist  
he creates street scenes with cut paper  
and images from magazines and news-  
paper. What item appears in both of  
these street scene artworks?





Here are two of my collage pieces—these are only 4" x 6" and include different kinds of papers, images cut from magazines, old papers and photos .



*Patricia Ritter*





Martin O'Neill is a modern collage artist from England.

He uses all sorts of images he has cut out from magazines and other materials to make unusual and expressive artworks that can be looked at as portraits.



What do you see in  
this collage piece?

Notice he is showing  
the different areas  
of the  
arts...including

Film strips,  
A Music Staff  
And a Paint Palette

What else do you see?



I hope the artwork you have just seen encourages and inspires you to create some collage pieces, but today we are going to work on creating  
**a Collaged landscape.**

What is a landscape?

It shows an area of land and incorporates the elements you see—or imagine.  
Such as mountains, fields, hills, rivers, lakes or the sea.

Sometimes we can look out our window and see what we want to represent in a landscape, or we can search for a photo or an image that we find interesting.

Or you can make something up and include images that no one else would —

Make art is about **being creative**, using our powers of **observation**  
and even our powers of **imagination**.

Follow along with me as we draw a few sample landscapes...

We will be working with **lines and shapes** in the following drawing exercise and I want you to notice that the drawn landscapes...

- \*Have a foreground (the things closest to you)

- \*A Middle ground— things you see at the horizon or eye level

- \*And a Background—things that are behind and in the distance of the fore and middle ground.

Paying attention to these will help you create depth in your landscape and let the eye travel from the front to the back of your artwork.



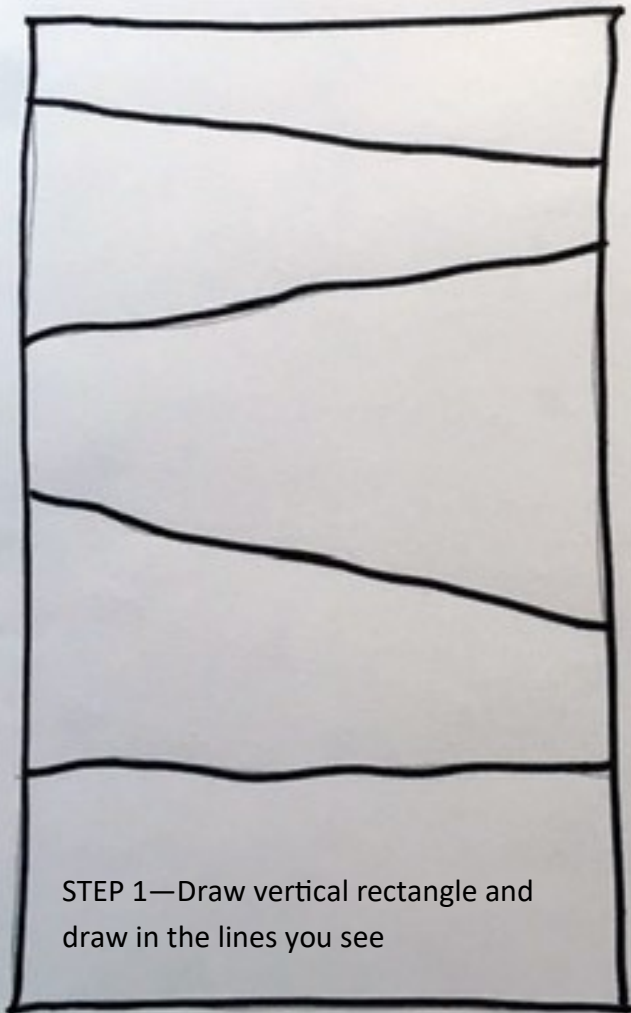
These are quick sketches—just use your pencil to draw in everything and then use a heavier marker or pencil to go over your main details.

You can draw out one or both of these exercises and then lightly color them in with colored pencils to give you some practice before you create your collaged landscape if you like.

Get several pieces of paper and a pencil and draw along...

I am using lines, shapes and  
Overlapping, to create Depth

# Vertical landscape



STEP 1—Draw vertical rectangle and  
draw in the lines you see



STEP 2—Draw in the  
details

P. Ritten



— horizontal landscape —



P. Ritter

Now let's look at how you can turn the image you want to collage into a drawing to use for your art piece. This is a watercolor I did of The Cumberland River—  
And the next slide will show you how I turned it into a line drawing.





# — The Cumberland River —



P. R. Her



## Materials Needed for the Landscape Collage Project

\*The background needs to be sturdy enough for your drawing and to glue paper and other materials onto. You can use

Cardboard from packing boxes...

cereal boxes...posterboard...foam core

\*Your inspiration! A photo or a painting you like, or a sketch you created. This will give you the colors and shapes you need to find in the materials you will gather.

\*You will need...

Pencils for drawing your initial outline of a landscape

Glue and Scissors

Magazines, greeting cards, construction paper, newspapers, and other materials you can cut or tear to create your collage! You can gather 3D materials also to glue on such as buttons, scrabble tiles, etc. if you like.

## **Step-By-Step Instructions:**

- \*Watch the slide presentation
- \* Decide on an image of a landscape you want to turn into a collage
- \*Draw out your landscape in a vertical or horizontal format on Your backing board—leave a border around the outside of your Image.
- \*Decide what colors you need to find to fill in your landscape
- \*Gather collage materials to use
- \*Cut or tear your gather papers into small pieces and lay them down in the areas you want them.
- \*After you have an idea of where everything will go, glue down the pieces to complete your artwork!

Here is a step-by-step explanation of a collage landscape.

After choosing my image, I drew out a simple sketch of the shapes I see.

I am using a piece of posterboard which measures bout 10" x 12"

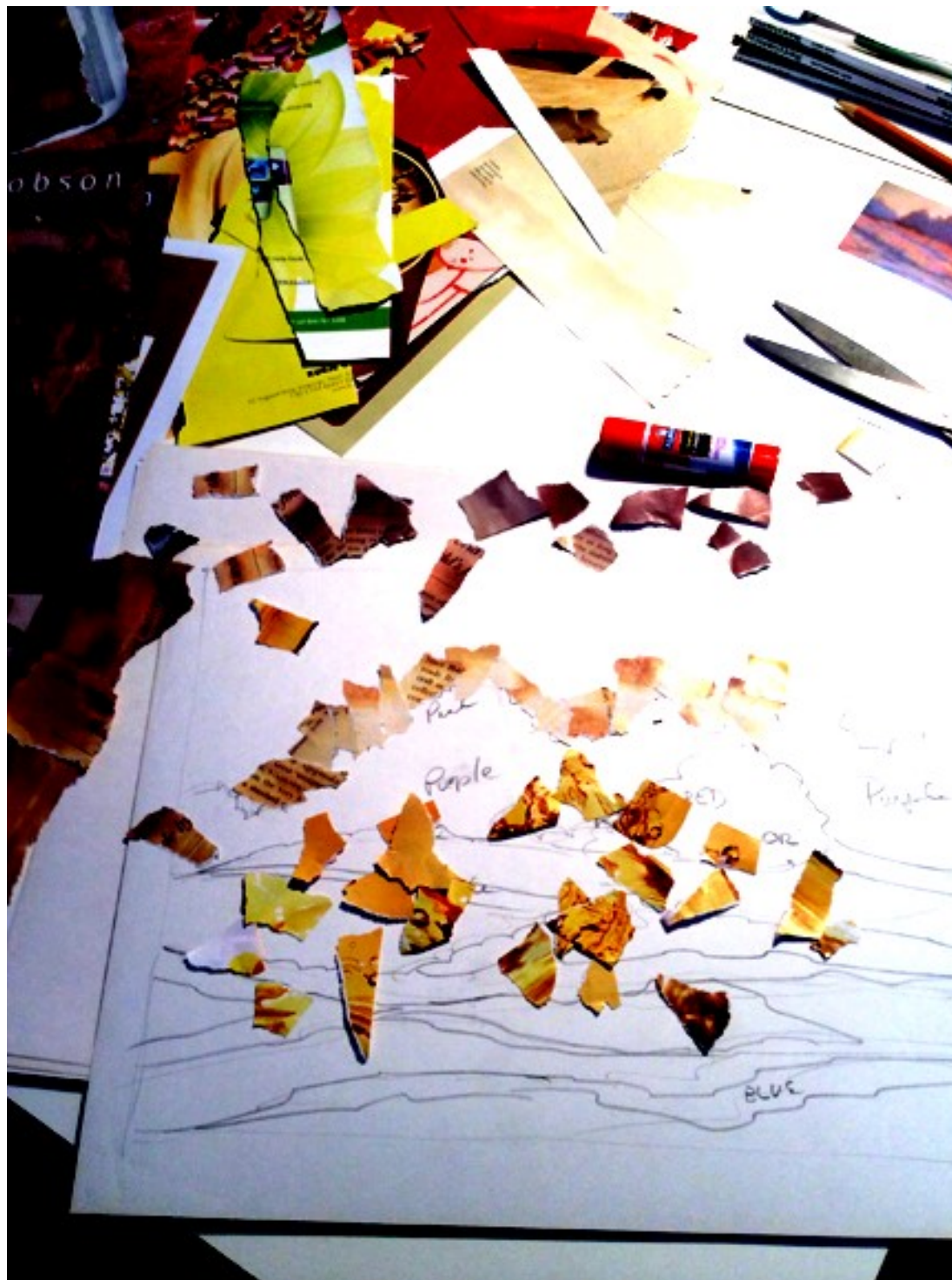




I tore, or cut pages from magazines and other materials and put them into piles of the colors I want to use

Then I started tearing them into smaller shapes and laying them down in the areas of my landscape.

I did NOT glue anything down until I had most of the picture worked out.



And here it is almost finished. My pieces of paper have been glued down for the sky, the mountains and fields and now I am working down to the bottom of the paper.





Here are a few examples of COLLAGE LANDSCAPES created by my students.  
They used foamcore boards and drew their design/sketch out with a white pencil.























I hope you enjoy being  
CREATIVE in making your  
Collage Landscape.

And perhaps you will use the other examples  
as inspiration to create Collage Portraits  
and other works of art.

Thanks for joining me for this lesson.  
Keep Making Art!

*Pat Ritter*



# **Adaptations for Special Needs Students**

Paper and other materials can be torn or ripped out by the student instead of using scissors.

The image they chose can be laid out in very simple shapes.

The image does not have to represent reality—it can be an abstract representation or a collaged design!

Patience, patience, patience...

If a student can indicate their choice of colored paper and where they want it to be placed and glued, an aide, parent or helper can do that for them and the work of art is something the student designed and created by making their own choices.

Give them the opportunity to do as much as they can and  
Lend assistance when needed.

## **Art Vocabulary Used in this Project...**

You can research any of these terms on-line or at  
your library to learn more

Collage

Line, Shapes, Forms

Vertical, Horizontal

Overlapping

Sketch

Realistic, Abstract

Landscapes, Portraits